



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

Brad Bradley
K.10
5/11/99

MAY 11 1999

VIA TELEFAX AND
REGULAR MAIL

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF

May 11, 1999

Tim Healy
ENTACT
1360 North Wood Dale Road, Suite A
Wood Dale, Illinois 60191

Dear Mr. Healy:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) have reviewed ENTACT's proposal to amend the design for the capping project at the NL Industries/Taracorp Site in Granite City, Illinois (NL Site), specifically, to remove the retaining walls included in the original ACE design. EPA regrets to inform you that this change to the design is not acceptable.

The main reason for including the retaining walls in the ACE design was to minimize the movement of material with very high lead concentrations. Due to the nature of the materials in the slag pile, EPA's own past experience at the Site, and concerns expressed by residents living near the slag pile, EPA has always been focussed on reducing the potential for the generation of lead-bearing dust during the capping project. EPA still has this concern, and since removal of the retaining walls from the design will significantly increase the potential for generating dust, EPA is disapproving this proposed design change.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (312) 886-4742.

Sincerely,

Brad Bradley
Remedial Project Manager

cc: Jeff Leed, Leed Environmental
Charlie Settles, U.S. ACE
Bob Rogers, Illinois EPA

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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